ARIZONA NEWS RELEASE

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Press Release Announcement – (July 22, 2005)

- For Immediate Release -

ARIZONA CATTLE ON FEED INVENTORY UP 9 PERCENT FROM A YEAR AGO

Phoenix – On July 1, 2005, Arizona had 322,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, up 9 percent from a year ago. Placements last month totaled 29,000 head, 6 percent less than the previous June. During June, 35,000 head were marketed, 7,000 head more than last June. On July 1, 2005, California had 520,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, the same level as July 1, 2004. June placements totaled 73,000 head, up 4,000 head from June 2004. June marketings totaled 63,000 head, an increase of 1,000 head from last June.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.4 million head on July 1, 2005. The inventory was 3 percent above July 1, 2004 and 5 percent above July 1, 2003. The inventory included 6.81 million steers and steer calves, up 7 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 65 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.53 million head, down 5 percent from 2004.

Placements in feedlots during June totaled 1.77 million, 7 percent above 2004 and 6 percent above 2003. Net placements were 1.71 million. During June, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 412,000, 600-699 pounds were 347,000, 700-799 pounds were 480,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 530,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during June totaled 2.07million, 1 percent below 2004 and 7 percent below 2003. Other disappearance totaled 63,000 during June, 10 percent below 2004 but 3 percent above 2003.

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